

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 03566 132317Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 CA-01 /021 W
-----006923 142109Z /62
R 130500Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2573

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY, NP
SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF MANASLU EXPEDITION CASE

REF: KATHMANDU 3406

1. EMBASSY'S EFFORTS AS PER REFTEL TO GET MINISTRY OF TOURISM CONFIRMATION OF "CORRECT" TRANSLATION OF MOUNTAINEERING RULES, 1976 HAVE PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL. RATHER THAN COMMENT ON TEXT WE PROVIDED, MINISTRY RETURNED REVISED VERSION CONTAINING NUMBER OF MINOR AMENDMENTS, BUT WITH SAME TRANSLATION ERRORS CONTAINED IN EARLIER GON HANDOUT. MINISTRY DECISION TO DUCK ISSUE PROBABLY REFLECTS COMBINATION OF LAZINESS AND DESIRE TO AVOID INVOLVEMENT IN ISSUE WHICH IS RESPONSIBILITY OF ANOTHER MINISTRY. (MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE PUTS OUT TRANSLATIONS OF GOVERNMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS.) WE HAVE CONCLUDED THERE IS NO POINT IN PUSHING MATTER FURTHER HERE.

2. CLEARLY MINISTRY'S RESPONSE INTRODUCES ADDED ELEMENT OF CAUTION IN TRYING TO TAKE MANASLU "PRECEDENT" TOO FAR. DIFFERENCES OVER ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF RELEVANT REGULATIONS CLEARLY REMAIN, NOT TO MENTION POSSIBILITY OF DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OVER MEANING. IN UQORT, NO ONE CAN ELIMINATE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE DISPUTES NOR PREDICT HOW THEY MIGHT TURN OUT. NEVERTHELESS WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR A REPORT OF THE
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PAGE 02 KATHMA 03566 132317Z

MANASLU EXPEDITION EXPERIENCE, INCLUDING THE ARGUMENTS PRESENTED TO AND ULTIMATELY ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, TO BE CIRCULATED IN SOME APPROPRIATE MANNER TO OTHER AMERICAN MOUNTAINEERS. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE FACTUALLY, NEITHER FINDING FAULT WITH NEPALESE AUTHORITIES NOR SEEKING TO DRAW SPECIFIC CONCLUSION REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

HECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RULES, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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